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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended): A compound of the general formula I

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup>

are each a cyano group,

 $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ 

are independently selected from hydrogen atoms, unsubstituted  $C_1\text{-}C_{10}$  alkyl groups, or unsubstituted  $C_2\text{-}C_{10}$  alkenyl groups,

Χ

has is an alkyl, alkylphenyl, or an alkylcycloalkyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, or an alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in which the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl is interrupted by 1-3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O and N, and the alkyl interrupted by said 1-3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O and N

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optionally has from one to three hydroxy functional groups,

and X further has wherein the alkyl, alkylphenyl,

alkylcycloalkyl, or the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl in

which the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or

alkylcycloalkyl is interrupted by said 1-3 hetero atoms

selected from the group consisting of O and N and optionally

has from one to three hydroxyl functional groups has at least

one group including at least one hetero atom selected from

the group consisting of N, O, S and P which is positively or

negatively charged wherein said group is selected from the

group consisting of a quaternary ammonium

quaternary ammonium amine group, -O-SO<sub>3</sub>-, -COO-, -O-

 $PO_3H^{-}$ ,  $-O-PO_3^{-2}$ ,  $-SO_3^{-}$ ,  $-PO_3H^{-}$ , and  $-PO_3^{-2}$ , and X has

from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 1 to 10 hetero atoms,

and

is a counterion selected from the group consisting of a

quaternary ammonium ion, an alkali metal ion, an alkali earth

metal ion, triethanol ammonium а ion, an

aminomethylpropanol ion, a tris(tromethamine) ion, and a

halogen ion.

2-5. (Canceled).

Υ

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6. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the at least one group including at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P which is positively or negatively charged has one positive charge.

7. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 6, wherein the at least one group which has one positive charge is a quaternary ammonium group.

8. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein Y is a halogen ion.

9. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the at least one group <u>including at least one hetero atom selected from the group consisting</u> of N, O, S and P which is positively or negatively charged has one negative charge.

10. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 9, wherein the at least one group which has one negative charge is selected from the group consisting of -COO<sup>-</sup>, -O-SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and -O-PO<sub>3</sub>H<sup>-</sup>.

## 11. (Canceled).

- 12. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein  ${\sf R}^3$  and  ${\sf R}^4$  are each hydrogen atoms.
- 13. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently selected from hydrogen atoms and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl groups.

## 14. (Canceled).

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15. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:

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and

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16. (Previously presented): An UV-A screening composition comprising a compound according to claim 1.

17. (Previously presented): The UV-A screening composition according to claim 16, which is a cosmetic composition for protecting skin or hair against UV-A radiation.

18-22. (Canceled).

- 23. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein the quaternary ammonium group is a pyridinyl.
- 24. (Previously presented): The compound according to claim 7, wherein the quaternary ammonium group comprises a charged nitrogen which interrupts the alkyl group of the alkyl, alkylphenyl, or alkylcycloalkyl.
- 25. (Currently amended): The compound according to claim 15, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

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SO, NH(CH2CH2OH)3

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and